

## FEDERATED MALAY STATES.

### REPORT OF THE MALAY STATES VOLUNTEER RIFLES FOR THE YEAR 1913.

The strength on the last day of the year was as under :

	Officers.	Sergeant- Instructors.	Other Ranks.
Staff ... ..	1	4	—
Efficients ... ..	12	—	453
Recruits ... ..	—	—	34
Leave ... ..	10	—	63
Non-efficients ... ..	—	—	32
Total ... ..	23	4	582
Attached ... ..	3	—	5

One member of the permanent staff was relieved during the year owing to ill-health.

Sergeant-Major Raper resigned his appointment as Regimental Sergeant-Major and returned to England ; his place on the permanent staff has not yet been filled.

Two officers were appointed during the year ; four officers resigned their commissions, including the Honorary Chaplain and Honorary Surgeon, the latter two owing to departure from the Federated Malay States, and their appointments have not been filled.

Other ranks enrolled during the year	...	...	180
„ resigned	...	...	146
Struck off as inefficient	...	...	60
Died	...	...	3

The policy of striking off the inefficient has been followed throughout the year, and amongst the number of resignations is a large percentage of men who paid the authorized fine and resigned in preference to appearing in orders as "struck off."

It is satisfactory to note that 180 new members were enrolled and that the vacancies caused by resignations and "striking off" are almost filled.

#### MUSKETRY.

2. The additional rifle ranges constructed in the various outstations have considerably improved the conditions under which the musketry course can be fired.

Seventy-five per cent. of the strength completed the standard test, the remaining 25 per cent. includes those on leave and those who joined during the latter part of the year ; 21 per cent. of this number made 65 points or more in the standard tests.

Field firing practices were carried out at Taiping, Kuala Lumpur, Seremban, Ipoh and Port Dickson ; the outstation ranges are not suitable for any field firing.

The result of these practices were invariably most satisfactory.

#### COMPETITIONS.

3. Teams from Perak and Selangor competed for the Bromhead Mathews Shield which was won by the Penang Volunteers.

No teams were entered for the Warren Shield competition.

The Officers' Shield for inter-company competition consisting of a forced march and attack practice was won by No. I Company.

The Mills Cup for inter-section competition was won by No. I Section, No. V Company.

The Hon'ble Mr. H. D. Griffiths very kindly presented a handsome Challenge Cup for inter-company competition.

This cup will be competed for during the current year.

## CAMPS AND PARADES.

4. Camps were held in Kuala Lumpur, Klang, Port Dickson, Taiping, Batu Gajah and Ipoh, and were well attended.

The usual squad and company drills were held in the various centres.

## KING'S BIRTHDAY PARADE.

5. The King's Birthday Parade was held in Kuala Lumpur and was very well attended.

Three companies of the Federated Malay States Police and the Victoria Institute Cadets joined in the parade and the usual movements were well carried out.

## SINGAPORE MANŒUVRES

6. A composite company consisting of two officers and 51 rank and file attended the Singapore mobilization manœuvres.

The company was attached to the 1st Battalion King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry, and the benefit derived from working with regular troops cannot be over-estimated.

The Officer Commanding and Adjutant were attached to the staff of the General Officer Commanding.

## MOBILIZATION.

7. Orders for mobilization in the event of war were drawn up and received the approval of the General Officer Commanding, Straits Settlements, during the year.

## ANNUAL INSPECTION.

8. The annual inspection was held in Kuala Lumpur on 22nd November by the General Officer Commanding, Straits Settlements, His Excellency Major-General Stephenson, C.B.

His Excellency the High Commissioner, Sir Arthur Young, K.C.M.G., who is Honorary Colonel of the corps, was present; eleven officers and 283 other ranks were on parade.

The corps was inspected in battalion and company drill, and an attack practice concluded the day's work.

The following extract from the Inspecting Officer's report shows that the efficiency of the corps has been maintained:

"Good progress has been made by the Malay States Volunteer Rifles during the past year, and the keenness of all ranks has in no way diminished.

"The drill in close order is more precise.

"The officers are better instructed and all the work in extended order shows a satisfactory state of training.

"More attention should be paid to musketry.

"The appointment of extra instructors has secured greater efficiency in every respect.

"I consider the corps fit to take its place in the defence of the Malay States."

## GENERAL.

9. The strength of the corps was slightly less at the end of the year under review than 12 months previously, due to the weeding out of inefficient; there is no doubt that the policy adopted has had a good effect, and suitable men are enrolling to fill the vacancies.

During the month of January of this year 20 new members were enrolled.

Although only 53 per cent. of the members of the corps actually in the Federated Malay States attended the inspection, it must be remembered that the area over which the corps is recruited is about half that of England, and that a large number of men have to travel many miles by road before reaching the railway line; under these circumstances the numbers present at the inspection cannot be considered unsatisfactory.

The outstation units again proved themselves the keenest and most efficient in the corps; it is interesting to note that one well-known rubber company provides 14 volunteers out of a total staff of 15, and that all with three exceptions attended the inspection, although the journey entailed travelling several hours by launch and train; if this example could be followed through the Federated Malay States the corps would soon be over-strength.

It is much to be regretted that the number of volunteers amongst the Europeans in the large towns is not as great as might be expected.

A motor carriage for machine gun was most generously presented to No. V Company, Ipoh, by the following mining owners and firms: The Hon'ble Mr. Eu Tong Seng, Messrs. Osborne and Chappel, Tronoh and Pusing Bahru.

The carriage with its crew were specially inspected during the annual camp by the General Officer Commanding, who expressed his great satisfaction as to the handiness of the carriage and the way the crew worked the gun.

During the inspection parade His Excellency the High Commissioner presented Captain H. R. Shaw with the volunteer long service medal.

Captain Elliott Cooper was Adjutant throughout the year and attended parades in all parts of the Federated Malay States.

His work as Adjutant cannot be too highly praised, and the favourable criticism by the Inspecting Officer is a testimony of the manner in which he has carried out his duties.

The additions to the permanent staff have greatly increased the efficiency of the corps; the instructors attached to each company have held parades throughout their respective districts and have kept in touch with every member of their units; the work they have done has been highly satisfactory.

KUALA LUMPUR,  
30th January, 1914.

A. B. HUBBACK, Lt.-COL.,  
Commanding M.S.V.Rifles.